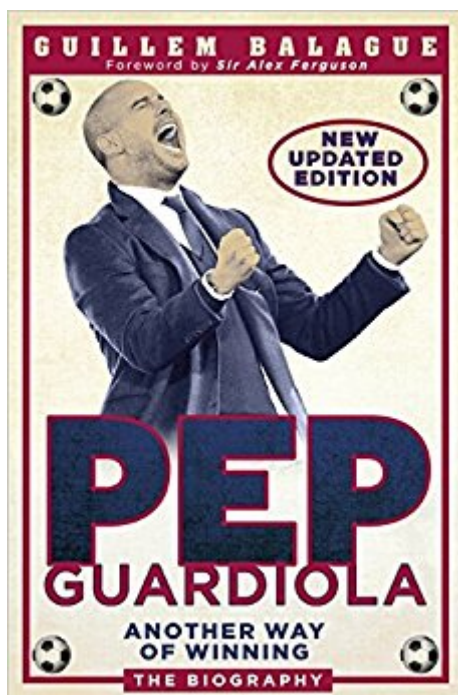


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# Pep Guardiola



## Synopsis

This fully updated edition of the international bestseller includes Pep Guardiola's Bayern years and his decision to join Manchester City. Pep Guardiola is the most successful and sought after football coach in the world. After being appointed first-team manager in 2008, he transformed Barcelona into arguably the greatest club side of all time, winning an unprecedented thirteen trophies in four years. Following a shock sabbatical from the game, he replaced Jupp Heynckes at the helm of Bayern Munich at the start of the 2013-14 season, twice winning the Double in his three years in charge. He then announced that he would be joining Manchester City for the 2016-17 season, thereby beginning what could prove to be his greatest challenge yet: turning them into a team that consistently wins in the most difficult of leagues and a regular challenger in the Champions League . . . and doing it the Guardiola way. Guillem Balagué has followed Pep's career from the outset and has had direct access to the man and his inner circle. This then is the definitive portrait of Pep Guardiola and his relentless pursuit of footballing perfection.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It's a must-read for anyone who's doubted Pep's influence, from handing the power to Barca's homegrown crop to never betraying his childhood romanticism of the game. \* Four Four Two \* Balague's insightful biography presents Guardiola as a relentless perfectionist - a man obsessed with the minutiae of football, often unable to switch off. \* SPORT \*

Guillem Balague is the author of Messi, Barça, Pep Guardiola, A Season on the Brink, and

Cristiano Ronaldo, which won the Best Football Book of the Year award at the 2016 British Sports Book Awards. A key fixture of Sky Sports' coverage of Spanish football, he appears regularly both on live match coverage and on the weekly round-up show, Revista de la Liga. He is also the UK Correspondent for AS, the Madrid-based Spanish sports newspaper, and El Larguero, Spain's most popular sports radio show. His work appears regularly in The Times and in Champions magazine, where he writes a regular column on international football.

<http://www.guillembalague.com/en/home><https://twitter.com/GuillemBalague><https://www.facebook.com/guillembalague>

Balague's biography on Guardiola left me wondering if there really was another way of winning. The book barely gives any insights into Guardiola's mind perhaps as a testament to the Spaniard's reluctance to open up to the press. I would have expected a bit more comments on the subject itself from close relatives; comments or even anecdotes from important figures such as Bielsa, Begiristain or even FCB 'exes' Laporta or Rossell would have made an important contribution both historically as well as tactically to the book. I was left with a feeling that most of the research for this book came from two or three other books related to Barcelona and which the author refers to in his narrative. I am already through the first chapter on one of these books and I can't believe the amount of information that has been sourced, IMHO, from it. One funny story happened to me when I was looking for information to read about the Spaniard and the press was coming up with stories about Guardiola signing for a new club. An Italian sports broadcaster broke news that he had already signed for a German club (another FCB, LOL) and Balague's twitter account and blog page said specifically that he didn't, not yet, and that he needed time. By the following week the German club confirmed not only that he was already on-board, but that he was signed months before. I guess that tells you how much the subject and his author worked together on this book.

This book gives fantastic insight to Guardiola & Barcelona. What they managed to achieve is nothing short of extraordinary and this book gives intimate knowledge as to events going on behind the scenes that fans aren't typically aware of. Kudos to the author and everyone that's a part of arguably the greatest football team in the history of the sport.

I was so pleased to have purchased this one! I love Barcelona football, am a great admirer of Pep Guardiola and it was a delight to find out what went on behind the scenes. From never being a fan of Bayern Munich, I now watch some of their games and follow what's going on, all due to Pep!

Thank you for a book that I couldn't put down.

Missed Pep's time at FC Barcelona? This book will catch you up. Good, fair reporting that reveals what was happening behind the scenes from 2008-2012. Recommended.

Excellent book for football fans. You get to understand how to play football, to love the game and to get into the head of an amazing coach. Sublimly written, a must read!

Concise, to the point. Would recommend it to anyone and everyone who cares to listen. In the end wanted more!!! Very good.

Good read for any aspiring coach. I have personally improved many areas of my coaching thanks to the examples in the book.

Ruthless world of professional Soccer coaching being told in a clear and direct manner. No glamour just hardworking and systematic application of talent.

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